

ON UTICA FOSSILS FROM RIDEAU, OTTAWA, ONT.

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(Read 19th January, 1888.)

As a natural consequence of the recent annexation of the vice-regal suburb of New Edinburgh, or Rideau, to the municipality of Ottawa, this new ward has had extensive operations performed within its limits during the past summer. Rideau, for the most part, exhibits throughout its entire area the bare strata of the Utica and Trenton formations, seeing that the newer Post-Tertiaries have been almost completely swept away and denuded in times subsequent to the deposition of the "boulder clays," "Leda clay" and "Saxicava sands," which at some period covered the valley of the Rideau River. An extensive series of trenches were opened and a system of pipes laid for water supply in the various streets, to such an extent that an excellent opportunity was afforded the members of the Ottawa Field-Naturalists' Club and others of examining not only the stratigraphy of the rocks occurring there, but also of making collections in the highly fossiliferous measures brought to view and of obtaining not a few fossils of rare occurrence, many of which have proved new to the locality and a few new to science. These latter, it is hoped, will shortly be described, and communicated at one of the Club's Soirées.

Detailed sections of the strata were obtained at various points along Crichton Street and elsewhere, and these may prove valuable for both palæontological and stratigraphical purposes. In order to give satisfactory notes on the distribution of the fossils of the Utica here as in other quarters, it is deemed advisable to insert these sections, giving the sequence of strata and the precise horizon at which most of the species mentioned in the lists to be given hereafter properly belong. In the description of the strata, their lithological character as well as the thickness of the beds and the fossil remains entombed within them and so well preserved, are given in more or less detail according as the facts were presented to the writer in the field work.